	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/764,252	GODWIN ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Ashok B. Patel	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *06/26/2007*.

NATHAN FLYNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1, 3-9, 58-60 and 64-66 (Total 14 claims)*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1, 3-9, 58-60 and 64-66 are allowed. Claims 2, 10-57, 61-63 and 67-72 are cancelled.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas Lee on 09/25/2007.

3.   The application has been amended as follows:

A.   In the claims:

a.   Claims 1, 3-9, 58-60 and 64-66 are allowed. Claims 2, 10-57, 61-63 and 67-72 are cancelled.

b.   Claim 1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for providing secure communications over a network in a distributed workload environment having target hosts which are accessed through a distribution processor by a common network address, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving at the distribution processor, network communications directed to the common network address;

determining whether the network communications are secure network communications;

processing secure network communications by:

routing both inbound and outbound communications with target hosts which are associated with an end-to-end secure network communication through the distribution processor;

processing both inbound and outbound end-to-end secure network communications at the distribution processor so as to provide endpoint network security processing of communications from the target host to the distribution processor and endpoint network security processing of communications from the distribution processor to the target host such that the distribution processor serves as an endpoint for the end-to-end secure network communication; and

receiving at the distribution processor, network communications directed to the common network address;

distributing the received secure network communications that are directed to the common network address among selected ones of the target hosts so as to distribute workload associated with the network communications among the target hosts including encapsulating communications between the distribution processor and the selected ones of the plurality of target hosts which are associated with end-to-end secure network communications so as to distinguish communications between the distribution processor and the selected ones of the plurality of target hosts which are associated with secure network communications from other communications; and

processing non-secure communications by distributing the received network communications that are directed to the common network address among selected ones of the target hosts, wherein the selection among the target hosts is carried out so as to distribute workload associated with the network communications among the target hosts.

B. In the Specification:

a.   Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, at lines 1-15 as follows:

The present application is related to commonly assigned and concurrently filed United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/764,500, now US Patent No. 6, 941, 366, entitled "METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR TRANSFERRING SECURITY PROCESSING BETWEEN PROCESSORS IN A CLUSTER COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT" and United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/764,790, now US Patent No. 7, 146, 432, entitled "METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR PROVIDING FAILURE RECOVERY OF NETWORK SECURE COMMUNICATIONS IN A CLUSTER COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT" the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's arguments that Bhaskaran does not disclose are persuasive as presented in response dated 06/26/2007 pages 7-18 along with the other claim limitations as well as the Examiner's amendments stated above. None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest the claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached o If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp

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